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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 2886.0095-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Akio SATO et al. )  
Application No.: 10/562,574 ) Group Art Unit: 2828  
Filed: December 27, 2005 ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
For: LASER-CLAD PROCESSING ) Confirmation No. 7889  
APPARATUS AND LASER- )  
CLAD PROCESSING METHOD )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08. To the best of undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-referenced application. Further, each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

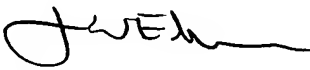
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 10, 2007

By:   
James W. Edmondson  
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